

	MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BUREAU OF WASTE SITE CLEANUP <b>Standard Operating Procedure</b> <b>Oil Spill Response Trailers</b> <b>Activation &amp; Deployment</b>			SOP BWSC-10-02-ER
				Revision: 0
<b>BWSC/ER</b>				Date: 2010
Approved By	Date	Pages	Contact Person	
Janine Commerford	11/15/2010	3	Richard Packard	

**Summary**

This document establishes a policy and procedure for the mobilization and deployment of MassDEP oil spill response equipment and is applicable to those communities that have custody and control of this equipment, to MassDEP staff responding to such releases and to representatives of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA).

**Purpose and Scope**

The Massachusetts Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act, Chapter 21 M, as amended was established in part to improve and enhance state and local ability to respond to a marine oil spill. To that end MassDEP has provided oil spill response equipment and trailers to 68 coastal municipalities and 2 MassDEP regional offices. The equipment to be used by local spill responders will provide the rapid response capability necessary to contain a spill at its source and to protect or prevent oiling of sensitive habitats and important resources. The equipment serves as an important response asset in the event of a localized spill as well as for a spill of regional scope.

This document establishes a policy and procedure for the mobilization and deployment of MassDEP oil spill response equipment and is applicable to those communities that have custody and control of this equipment, to MassDEP staff responding to such releases and to representatives of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Massachusetts Maritime Academy (MMA). An essential purpose of this policy is to implement a coordinated system of deploying MassDEP's oil spill equipment that will allow mutual aid between local communities while incorporating the concept of Unified Command decision-making and control established by the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This policy applies to events of varying scale from a small spill with local impacts to a large spill of regional impacts.

Each coastal municipality in possession of a MassDEP oil spill trailer has signed the Commonwealth Standard Contract forms that establish terms and conditions regarding the custody and use of the oil spill response equipment. These agreements allow municipalities to use the equipment for certain defined purposes while the Commonwealth of Massachusetts retains ownership of the equipment and the responsibility to maintain and restock the trailer and equipment. MassDEP maintains a web site to provide training and inventory information

pertaining to this oil spill equipment including locations and local points of contact at <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/cleanup/marine/oil-spill-trailer-locations.html>.

MassDEP may relocate oil spill trailers from one community to another as needed to address the resource management needs of an oil spill event.

### **Incident Management**

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF) provide a regulatory structure under which Federal, State and Local governments respond to various types and scale of incidents including oil spills. This framework, which incorporates essential elements of the Incident Command System (ICS), utilizes components such as multi-agency coordination, resource management and unified command as core components of an effective response action.

Federal, state and local agency representatives respond in accordance with their appropriate authorities and participate in the response within the framework of NIMS ICS organizational structures, doctrine and procedures.

To insure that MassDEP resources are managed efficiently and that deployment decisions during an incident are made within the structure of unified command the following procedures area established.

Municipalities are urged to keep accurate track of local resources deployed and a detailed response expenses for possible reimbursement by the Responsible Party or the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) or the Hazardous Substance Response Trust Fund under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) or the Local Governments Reimbursement Program administered by the U.S. EPA.

### **Local Impact Spills**

MassDEP's oil spill response equipment (trailers) are primarily under the custody and control of municipal fire or harbor master departments in the coastal municipalities covered by the Oil Spill Act program

A release or threat of release of oil is considered to be of local impact if it affects or has the potential to affect the community where it originates and one bordering community. When an oil spill of local impact occurs the following procedures shall apply to the mobilization and deployment of MassDEP's oil spill equipment.

- A municipality or agency that has custody and control and of MassDEP oil spill equipment has the authority to mobilize and deploy the equipment in their possession when a release or threat of release of oil is present in their community and is expected to be of local scope or impact.
- A municipality or agency also has the authority to deploy the oil spill response equipment under their custody and control to an abutting community, if requested, when a mutual aid agreement is in place between such communities.

- Following the decision by a local municipality or agency to deploy the oil spill equipment notification to MassDEP's Emergency Response program staff shall be made as soon as possible by calling (888) 304-1133 (MEMA). Additional information on this notification procedure can be found on MassDEP's web site at

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/cleanup/marine/oil-spill-equipment-reporting-and-resupply.html>

### **Regional Impact Spills**

A release or threat of release of oil is considered to be of regional impact when it affects or threatens to affect the coastline of more than 2 communities. When a release or threat of release is of regional impact the following procedures shall apply to the mobilization and deployment of MassDEP's oil spill equipment.

- MassDEP acting in the capacity of State On-Scene Coordinator (SOSC) will direct the mobilization and deployment of MassDEP oil spill response equipment within the context of a unified command.
- Mobilization and deployment decisions regarding MassDEP oil spill response equipment made within the context of a unified command shall be implemented with the assistance of MEMA, local communities and private contractors.
- MEMA will participate in the response to an oil spill of regional scope by placing representative(s) in the logistics section of a NIMS ICS organizational structure.
- MEMA, at the direction of MassDEP, will coordinate the decisions of unified command to mobilize and deploy MassDEP oil spill response equipment by contacting local communities, contractors or other entities as necessary to implement mobilization and deployment decisions.
- Local municipalities or agencies that have custody and control of MassDEP oil spill equipment may mobilize and stage the equipment in their possession as part of an oil spill of regional scope but will not deploy such equipment unless impact from the release is present on the community's shoreline or within 3 miles of the community's shoreline.
- Following a decision by a local municipality or agency to deploy the oil spill equipment a notification to MassDEP's Emergency Response program staff shall be made by calling (888) 304-1133 (MEMA) as soon as possible.
- Local municipalities or agencies that have custody and control of MassDEP oil spill equipment if requested to and if local resources are available will assist in the mobilization and deployment of such equipment in their possession by transporting the equipment to another coastal municipality at the direction of MassDEP or MEMA.